



04-26-06

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Docket No.: 09634/000L271-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazuyuki Imagawa et al.

Application No.: 10/057,756

Confirmation No.: 9534

Filed: January 25, 2002

Art Unit: 2621

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND
APPARATUS

Examiner: J. B. Strege

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

04/27/2006 BABRAHA1 00000002 10057756
01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language documents is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark

{W:\09634\000L271US0\00723945.DOC 10057756 00000002 10057756 00000002 10057756 }

Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is given.

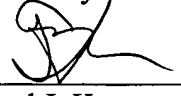
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Our check in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: April 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By  *Richard J. Katz*
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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/057,756-Conf. #9534	
			Filing Date	January 25, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	Kazuyuki Imagawa	
			Art Unit	2621	
			Examiner Name	J. B. Strege	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	09634/000L271-USO

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-2000-030062	01-28-2000	Glory Ltd.		✓
	BB	JP-2000-099717	04-07-2000	Sharp Corp.		✓
	BC	JP-2000-148980	05-03-2000	Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.		✓
	BD	JP-2000-149029	05-30-2000	Tektronix, Inc.		✓
	BE	JP-2000-209425	07-28-2000	Canon Inc.		✓
	BF	JP-2000-242787	09-08-2000	Toyota Motor Corp		✓
	BG	JP-06-074732	03-18-1994	Hamamatsu Photonics		✓
	BH	JP-10-063847	03-06-1998	Yamatake Honeywell Co., Ltd		✓
	BI	JP-10-171989	06-26-1998	Omron Corp.		✓

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	T. Awakura et al. "AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF ROAD SIGNS" ; Technical Report of IEICE PRMU98-201 (1999-01) pages 69-76	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Application No. (if known): 10/057,756

Attorney Docket No.: 09634/000L271-US0

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IDS Statement (2 pages)
IDS (Citation) by Applicant (10 References) (1 page)
10 Cited Documents
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